

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/520,183 Confirmation No. : 7599  
First Named Inventor : Juergen DECKER  
Filed : January 5, 2005  
TCA/ U. : (To Be Assigned)  
Examiner : (To Be Assigned)  
Docket No. : 095309.55776US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Force-Transmission Element

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attached documents which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application are submitted.

**I. Time Period of Submission**

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ 1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or 2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

☐ after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action closing prosecution (*Ex parte Quayle*), (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith:

☐ a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ after either a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith:

a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and

a fee in the amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

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II. Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

III. Submission of Non-English Language Documents

☐ The following is a concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language documents listed in the attached Form PTO-1449:

☐ The relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ to the subject matter of the present invention is/are provided in the specification of the above-identified application.

☒ Applicants enclose herewith a copy of the German Office Action dated January 17, 2003 and an English translation thereof. We note that this German Office Action was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed January 5, 2005.

☐ English language equivalent publication(s) of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are submitted herewith.

☐ English language abstract(s) is/are submitted for document(s) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ English translation(s) of the foreign language document(s), is/are submitted herewith.

☐ Applicant submits the following explanations:  
\_\_\_\_\_.

IV. Continuations/Divisionals/PCT National Stage Applications

☐ Documents \_\_\_\_\_ were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on == in parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, from which this application claims a benefit.

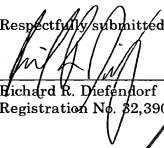
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☐ Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 have already been provided by the International Searching Authority, therefore, duplicate copies are not attached hereto.

If necessary, this paper should be considered as an authorization to charge Deposit Account 05-1323, Attorney Docket No.: 095309.55776US, for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

August 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
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